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Dear Fellows and Emeritus Fellows,

1. Memorial for Dr. James Melius

 A memorial will be held for Jim Melius on Monday 26 March 2018 at the Ican School of Medicine at Mt. Sinai in New York City. See attached invitation. Personal remembrances are encouraged and may be submitted here.

2. Leadership transitions in the Collegium Ramazzini

- The Executive Council voted to accept the generous offer of Fellow Mark Robson to serve as interim Treasurer. Mark is the Dean of Agricultural and Urban Programs, Professor of Entomology and Professor of Public Health at Rutgers University (NJ, USA) and was elected to the Collegium Ramazzini in 2013. Meet Mark in this short video just released by Rutgers that speaks to his commitment to training scholars in the developing world.
- Councilor <u>Henry Anderson</u> has offered to take over the leadership of the Awards Committee of which he is a long-standing member. Fellows interested in joining this committee are invited to contact Henry.

3. Save the Date Ramazzini Days 2018

 Please mark your calendars now for the 2018 edition of Ramazzini Days, to be held in Carpi, Italy, 1-4 November 2018. See information regarding <u>travel dates</u> <u>and transportation</u>. A call for abstracts will be included in the next newsletter; online registration opens in July.

4. Reminder from the Communications Committee

- The newly-formed Communications Committee, led by Chair <u>Celeste Monforton</u>, needs your help. The committee's purpose is to promote the Collegium's statements more strategically, increase the Collegium's influence, and enhance information sharing among the Fellows. The committee invites you to a) add to your email signature line: "Fellow, Collegium Ramazzini" with a link to the CR statements.
 - b) provide input on how and where to publicize our forthcoming ethics statement. Ask yourself: Who is the audience? Who needs to know about it? Are their individuals (e.g., government agency officials, journal editors) who should receive a personal copy?
 - c) let the committee know if you use Twitter.

5. Membership announcements

- Fellow <u>Roberto Luchhini</u> is the co-author of an <u>article on Bernardino Ramazzini</u>, focused on his pioneering work on the nervous system. Riva, M.A., Belingheri, M., De Vito, G. et al. J Neurol (2018).
- Fellow <u>Nguyen Bich Diep</u> shares that the Vietnam Institute of Occupational and Environmental Health (NIOEH) is organizing the <u>Fifth International Conference</u> on <u>Occupational and Environmental Health</u> (ICOEH5) from September 10 to 12, 2018 in Hanoi, Vietnam.

- Fellow <u>Colin Soskolne</u> sends an update regarding the ongoing work on aircraft cabin air contamination involving a number of Fellows. Following a call from the aerospace industry for a medical protocol to be developed for post-fume events, government care pathways have been identified in the UK and Germany. However, concerns have been raised about the independence of these from the aerospace industry and some are concerned that it is a pathway to a psychosomatic diagnosis. There is a clear need for international, independent occupational health and other expertise (including respiratory, neurological, neurobehavioural, cardio, and toxicology) to: 1) become informed; and 2) put their names on a database identifying that they are willing to see crew, engineers, ground staff or occasionally passengers, and help identify the signs and symptoms and the diagnostic process. If you are available to be included in the database of physicians willing to consult to people becoming ill post in-flight fume events, please contact Colin.
- The Ramazzini Insitute's <u>crowd-funding initiative</u> for its independent study on glyphosate and glyphosate-based herbicides is ongoing. Please consider participating and encourage colleagues and friends to join this campaign.

Kind regards from Bologna, KK

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